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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF NEVADA

* * *

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, Plaintiff,

RYAN W. PAYNE,

v.

Defendant.

Case No. 2:16-cr-00046-GMN-PAL

ORDER

(Mot. to Compel – ECF No. 2329)

This matter is before the court on Defendant Ryan W. Payne's Motion to Compel Discovery and Seek Other Relief in Light of August 24, 2017 Dan Love OIG Report (ECF No. 2329). This Motion is referred to the undersigned pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1)(A) and LR IB 1-3 of the Local Rules of Practice. The court has considered the Motion, the Government's Response (ECF No. 2590), and Payne's Reply (ECF No. 2592).

This motion asserts on information and belief that Bureau of Land Management (BLM) former Special Agent Dan Love engaged in misconduct during the Gold Butte operation that it the subject of the Superseding Indictment (ECF No. 27) in this case. The allegation is based on a follow-up report released by the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) on August 24, 2017, substantiating two reports of misconduct involving Love. Payne's motion seeks a full inquiry to answer questions about Love's written communications regarding the Gold Butte operation. At a minimum, Payne asks the court to compel the government to disclose an unredacted version of the August 2017 report and provide unredacted copies of the investigative materials and attachments involved in both Dan Love OIG reports, as well any other information in the government's possession bearing on Love's credibility and misconduct. Payne acknowledges requesting similar relief with regard to the first OIG report in a prior motion. See Motion for Unredacted OIG Report (ECF No. 1807).

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At calendar call on October 3, 2017, Chief District Judge Gloria M. Navarro granted Payne's Motion for Unredacted OIG Report (ECF No. 1807) and ordered the prosecution team to disclose an unredacted copy of both OIG reports and related attachments. *See* Mins. of Proceedings (ECF No. 2608); Hr'g Tr. (ECF No. 2641). In addition, the Judge Navarro granted an evidentiary hearing in relation to Payne's Renewed Motion to Dismiss Regarding Destruction of Evidence (ECF No. 1878), which was also premised on Dan Love's alleged misconduct. *See* Order / Report & Recommendation (ECF No. 2313).

On October 23, 24, 25, and November 3, 2017, an evidentiary hearing was held with defendants eliciting testimony from seven subpoenaed witnesses, including Dan Love. *See* Mins. of Proceedings (ECF Nos. 2768, 2776, 2782, 2813); Evid. Hr'g Trs. (ECF Nos. 2802, 2803, 2805, 2806, 2859). At the conclusion of the evidentiary hearing on November 3, 2017, Judge Navarro found that no bad faith action had occurred. *See* Mins. of Proceedings (ECF No. 2813). She therefore accepted the undersigned's Report & Recommendation (ECF No. 2313) and denied Payne's Renewed Motion to Dismiss Regarding Destruction of Evidence (ECF No. 1878). *Id*.

Prior to the evidentiary hearing, Payne filed a Sealed Motion to Dismiss or for Other Relief in Light of OIG Disclosures (ECF No. 2727). Judge Navarro set a briefing schedule and heard oral argument on this motion on November 13, 2017. The motion was granted in part and denied in part. Judge Navarro has addressed the requests for relief Payne set forth in the Motion to Compel (ECF No. 2329) in the context of other motions. *See, e.g.*, Mins. of Proceedings (ECF Nos. 2608, 2813, 2853).

Accordingly,

IT IS ORDERED: Defendant Ryan W. Payne's Motion to Compel (ECF No. 2329) is **DENIED** as duplicative.

Dated this 28th day of November, 2017.

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PEGGY A. LEEN

UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE